

TOWN OF LANESBOROUGH SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Submitted by Diane Stevens, Town Secretary

January 26, 2015

Present: Mr. John Goerlach, Chairman
Mr. Robert Ericson
Mr. Henry Sayers
Mr. Paul Sieloff, Town Administrator

Warrants: Warrants Signed

The meeting was opened by John Goerlach at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment

Ron Tinkham, Regina Dilego, and Jack Hickey from the Regional School Research Committee came before the Board regarding potential Town Articles. The Committee would like to discuss the issue of dissolving Union 71 and other options. The Committee would like to make it a community decision not a School Committee decision. Mr. Sieloff would like the Committee to draft something and take a vote so that it can be sent to Town Counsel. Ms. Dilego said she would get something to Mr. Sieloff by Thursday. Mr. Goerlach stated that they need to draft something very specific to bring to Town Counsel.

Francis Trembley from the Pittsfield Sportsman Club came before the Board regarding their property off of Silver Street. He presented the Board with a petition with 138 signatures. The Club would like to get the road open so they can access the property year round instead of having it closed during the winter months. Mr. Trembley stated that members pay money for year round use and he would like the Board to look into this. Mr. Goerlach asked if the Club plans to build a closed-in structure. Mr. Trembley stated that eventually they would erect a clubhouse. Mr. Sieloff stated that DPW Director Decelles informed him the Town would have to modify the turn-around at the property. Mr. Sieloff stated that certain roads are closed during winter months where there are not residents. Mr. Sieloff suggested that if the Board wants to look into the possibility of opening the road it should communicate with DPW Director Decelles. Mr. Trembley said he checks the property frequently to make sure there has been no vandals. Mr. Sayers wants to get an estimate as to how much it would cost to modify the road. Mr. Sieloff stated that he would talk to DPW Decelles and get back to him. [#1]

Russell Freeman came before the Board to urge them to let any meeting with Kinder Morgan be in an open forum. He stated that Kinder Morgan is having an open house at Berkshire Community College on February 10th from 6 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in their cafeteria.

Representative Gailanne Cariddi

Was not able attend meeting.

Appeal of Parking Violation #5782 – Annette O’Bert

Officer Lepicier was present for the Police Department. Ms. O’Bert did not attend hearing. Officer Lepicier stated that Ms. O’Bert’s vehicle was parked on the sidewalk which was the reason the citation was issued. Motion 15-08. Motion made by Henry Sayers to let citation #5782 stand, seconded by Robert Ericson. Unanimously voted. [#2]

Appeal of Parking Violation #6008 – Paul Langenback

Officer Lepicier was present for the Police Department. Mr. Langenback did not attend hearing. Officer Lepicier stated that the violation was at the Berkshire Mall wherein Mr. Langenback parked his vehicle in a

prohibited area and that Mall security told him to move his vehicle on several occasions. Officer Lepicier presented the Board a picture taken by Officer Rathbun of the violation. Motion 15-09. Motion made by Robert Ericson to let citation #6008 stand, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted. [#3]

Permit(s), Contract(s), Use of Town Property and Appointment(s)

Bradley Farm – Entertainment License

Bradley Farms paid their fee to renew their seasonal Entertainment License. Motion 15-10. Motion made by Robert Ericson to approve the renewal of the Bradley Farm Entertainment License, seconded by Henry Sayers. Motion carried 2-0. John Goerlach abstained from vote. [#4]

Agricultural Commission - T. Michael Gallagher

Mr. Sieloff reported to the Board that Peter Gallant had resigned from the Agricultural Commission and he would like to appoint T. Michael Gallagher as a member of the Commission instead of as an alternate. Motion 15-11. Motion made by Robert Ericson to appoint T. Michael Gallagher as a member of the Agricultural Commission, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted.

Request from Highway Superintendent to overrun Winter Roads Account

Mr. Sieloff presented the Board with a Memorandum from DPW Director William Decelles requesting the Board to vote to overrun the Winter Roads Budget. Motion 15-12. Motion made by Robert Ericson to overrun the Winter Roads Account, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted. [#5]

Mitigation Proposal from Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

Mr. Sieloff stated that this issue relates to the proposed pipeline. He stated that the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission is asking Towns to become involved and Mr. Sieloff stated that he wanted to bring this to the Board's attention for their thoughts. Mr. Ericson stated that he thought it would be worthwhile for Towns to band together for this type of project. Mr. Ericson stated that they should gather all the information they can and had several suggested revisions to the Agreement. Mr. Ericson stated that he thought it was a good way to go if the Towns act together. Mr. Goerlach stated that the cost was expensive and unless everyone was in agreement he would not like to entertain this. Mr. Sieloff stated that it was not something the Town had to act on right now and the Town could wait to see what the cost would be and how many towns would participate. Mr. Sieloff stated that he had just brought it to Board for feedback and could possibly bring it back at the next meeting once he receives more information. [#6]

Kinder Morgan Presentation Options

Mr. Sieloff stated that he talked to a representative from Kinder Morgan who stated that they could come to answer questions presented by the Board. He stated that they are not available on Mondays but could be possibly be available on Tuesday, March 3rd. Mr. Sieloff stated that he would check into possibly using the Elementary School for this meeting. Mr. Goerlach asked the Board how they wanted to handle the question/answer portion of the presentation. Mr. Goerlach asked the Board if they wanted to invite the Towns of Hancock and Cheshire to this meeting. Mr. Sieloff stated that he would check into that.

Modification to Street Light Letter to WMECO

Due to recently obtained information, Mr. Sieloff presented the Board with a Memorandum from the Town Secretary to modify Motion 15-05 relative to the Energy Committee's Street Light proposals. Motion 15-13. Motion made by Robert Ericson to modify Motion 15-05 from the 1/12/15 Selectmen's meeting as reflected in the 1/13/15 Memorandum from the Town Secretary, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted. [#7]

State Budget Update on Budget Cuts

Mr. Sieloff stated that he attended the Massachusetts Municipal Association meeting last week and that the Town received additional Chapter 90 money. Mr. Sieloff stated that he and the Town Accountant are monitoring state budget changes.

McCann Technical School – Fueling Station Shelter

Mr. Sieloff stated that the drawing presented would have the sides extended to the ground. Ms. Sayers stated he would like 3 sides extended (to include the back) to make a better shelter for the pumps. Mr. Ericson talked about making a door with a hatch. Mr. Goerlach talked about metal vs. wood. Mr. Sieloff stated he would ask for modifications and cost to include both sides down to bottom and some type of hatch or access in back and get back to the Board at next meeting. [#8]

Budget Update & Proposed Schedule

Mr. Sieloff stated that most of the budgets have come in. Mr. Sieloff stated that the Finance Committee wants to have separate meetings with larger budget departments. Mr. Sieloff stated that health insurance is going up 13%. Mr. Sieloff hopes to have the Capital Budget within the next 2 meetings.

Waterline Project Inter-Municipal Agreement and Town Meeting Articles

Mr. Sieloff stated that they are making more progress and that he is waiting for confirmation from the Water District. There is a tentative budget which is closer to \$300,000 then \$400,000 as originally anticipated. Mr. Goerlach stated that he wanted to go over this with Mr. Sieloff and DPW Director Decelles. Mr. Sieloff stated that he would get Mr. Goerlach a copy of the proposed budget. Mr. Goerlach stated that we need to check with the Water Department as to time frames for work to be done. Mr. Sieloff stated the reason for lower budget amount is because of the seasonal worker proposal. Mr. Goerlach asked if this seasonal worker was in addition to seasonal mower personnel. Mr. Sieloff stated that it was.

Other business which could not have been reasonably foreseen within 48 hours of the meeting.

Mr. Sieloff wanted to state that the Town Hall will be closed tomorrow. Mr. Goerlach stated that a driving ban is in effect and a snow emergency has been issued starting at 6:00 p.m. tonight until Wednesday. The Energy Committee Meeting and the Council on Aging meeting have been postponed.

Selectmen's Items

Mr. Ericson stated that the Energy Committee wants to purchase a temperature gun. Mr. Goerlach stated the Committee could borrow his.

Mr. Ericson spoke of the flooding in the Town Hall basement. Mr. Ericson stated that the Town should purchase a shop vac to have on hand to clean up when necessary. Mr. Sieloff stated that a Highway Department employee came and looked and thought that the water was coming from the bottom up. Mr. Sieloff stated that proper ventilation may help and will be working with the Energy Committee. Mr. Goerlach stated that we should talk to DPW Decelles about cost for drainage and add it to the Highway Department budget.

Town Administrator Report

Mr. Sieloff stated that he attended the Massachusetts Municipal Conference. He stated that the new Governor spoke at the Conference and stated that he wanted to work with municipalities and Mr. Sieloff said it sounded very optimistic. Mr. Sieloff informed the Board that the Town won an award from MIIA

for its loss control work. Mr. Sieloff stated that keeping track of this gets the Town credits on the insurance premiums.

Approve Minutes - January 12, 2015

Motion made by Robert Ericson to approve the Minutes of January 12, 2015, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted.

Executive Session – To enter into executive session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a) (2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with union and nonunion personnel.

Motion by Robert Ericson to go into executive session. 7:24 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Robert Ericson, seconded by Henry Sayers. Unanimously voted. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Footnotes:

[#1] Pittsfield Sportsman Club Petition

[#2] Parking Violation #5782

[#3] Parking Violation #6008

[#4] Bradley Farm Entertainment License

[#5] Memorandum from DPW Director William Decelles

[#6] Mitigation Proposal from Berkshire Regional Planning Commission Letter dated January 13, 2015

[#7] Town Secretary Memorandum – Street Lights

[#8] McCann Technical School – Fuel Station Shelter Drawing